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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**VERIZON WIRELESS EMPLOYEE TO BE  
RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO LOCAL CRIME VICTIMS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, will recognize the efforts of TESS MOHR, a Verizon Wireless employee in Evansville. In honor of National Crime Victim's Rights Week which was April 6-12th, the presentation will take place Wednesday, April 23, 2003 at 12:00 noon at the Evansville Police Department, 201 N.W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Room 107 in Evansville, Indiana.

This is a special award given periodically by the United States Attorney's Office to

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## VICTIM SERVICE AWARD - MOHR -2

honor an individual who unselfishly gives of his or her time and efforts to better the lives of crime victims in the Southern District of Indiana. It especially reflects the nation's heightened awareness of the devastating impact of crime and violence on its victims, while underscoring the importance of helping victims heal and rebuild their lives.

Ms. Mohr has gone above and beyond what her job has required of her by putting in many hours of her own time in providing services which benefit domestic violence victims. As an employee of Verizon Wireless, Ms. Mohr has been working with the HopeLine Program, which is Verizon's primary community outreach initiative. HopeLine operates its own nationwide phone recycling program that exclusively focuses on using wireless services and equipment to assist victims in emergency domestic violence situations. HopeLine collects wireless phones that are no longer being used, refurbishes and then donates them and air time back to organizations and shelters who serve domestic violence victims. "Tess Mohr has played an integral part in the success of our 911 cell phone program and she expresses a sincere desire and willingness to help with such a worthy cause", says David W. Gullledge, Chief of Evansville Police. Chief Gullledge nominated Ms. Mohr for this award and will attend the presentation.

Through the HopeLine program, Verizon supports prevention of domestic violence with financial contributions, equipment and service donations, educational seminars and life-rebuilding initiatives. In 2001, Verizon Wireless donated more than \$1.4 million in various contributions to domestic violence shelters and prevention programs across the country.

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